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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/780,957	02/09/2001	Peter Jon Clayton	01P7460US	6936

7590 05/23/2002

Siemens Corporation
Intellectual Property Department
186 Wood Avenue South
Iselin, NJ 08830

EXAMINER

LE, DANG D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2834

DATE MAILED: 05/23/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/780,957	CLAYTON ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Dang D Le	2834	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 4/23/02.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) 11-13 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

 a) All b) Some * c) None of:

 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

 a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Claims 11-13 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected Group II, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in Paper No. 4.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, "a plurality of metal electric connection regions each having one of the diodes connected thereto" in claims 3, 5 and 8 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

3. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it contains more than 150 words. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nold.

Regarding claim 1, Nold shows a power generator system comprising:

- A power generator (13, 14, Figure 1);
- An exciter (11, 12) for excitation of said power generator, the exciter including a diode wheel, the diode wheel having a rotating support structure, a plurality of diodes (20) mounted to the structure, and a plurality of a diode support and rupture containment devices (21 and elements between diodes 20 and heat sinks 18) each positioned adjacent a respective one of the plurality of diodes to support the diode and contain the diode within the confines thereof in the event the diode ruptures.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nold in view of Moffatt.

Regarding claim 2, Nold shows all of the limitations of the claimed invention including the containment members (21) being formed of an insulating material except

for each of the diode support and rupture containment devices including a pair of spaced-apart containment members having the diode positioned therebetween.

Moffatt shows each of the diode support and rupture containment devices including a pair of spaced-apart containment members (Figure 3b) having the diode (108) positioned therebetween for the purpose of covering the diodes.

Since Nold and Moffatt are all from the same field of endeavor; the purpose disclosed by one inventor would have been recognized in the pertinent art of the others.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to include each of the diode support and rupture containment devices with a pair of spaced-apart containment members having the diode positioned therebetween as taught by Moffatt for the purpose discussed above.

8. Claims 3-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nold in view of Moffatt as applied to claim 2 above and further in view of the applicant's admitted of prior art (Figure 4).

Regarding claim 3, the system of Nold modified by Moffatt show all of the limitations of the claimed inventions except for the diode wheel including a plurality of metal electric connection regions each having one of the diodes connected thereto, wherein each of the plurality of diodes includes a casing formed of an insulating material, and wherein at least one of the pair of containment members is positioned adjacent the metal-electric connection region having the diode connected thereto and extends to the casing of the diode.

The applicant's admitted of prior art (Figure 4) shows the diode wheel including a plurality of metal electric connection regions each having one of the diodes connected thereto, wherein each of the plurality of diodes includes a casing (36) formed of an insulating material, and wherein at least one of the pair of containment members is positioned adjacent the metal-electric connection region (if combined with Nold) having the diode connected thereto and extends to the casing of the diode for the purpose of providing electrical connection between the diodes and covering the diodes.

Since Nold, Moffatt and the applicant's admitted of prior art are all from the same field of endeavor; the purpose disclosed by one inventor would have been recognized in the pertinent art of the others.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to include the diode wheel with a plurality of metal electric connection regions each having one of the diodes connected thereto, wherein each of the plurality of diodes includes a casing formed of an insulating material, and wherein at least one of the pair of containment members is positioned adjacent the metal-electric connection region having the diode connected thereto and extends to the casing of the diode as taught by the applicant's admitted of prior art for the purpose discussed above.

Regarding claim 4, it is noted that Nold also shows each of the pair of containment members having a substantially annular shape to thereby define an insulative disc, and wherein each of the insulative discs being connected to the diode wheel for ease of access to the diode.

Regarding claim 5, it is noted that this claim is a combinations of claims 1-3.

Therefore, it is also rejected.

Regarding claims 6 and 7, these claims are similar to claims 2 and 4, respectively. They are also rejected.

Regarding claim 8, it is noted that this claim is a combinations of claims 1-3. As a result, it is rejected.

Claims 9 and 10 are similar to claims 2 and 4, respectively which are rejected.

Information on How to Contact USPTO

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dang D Le whose telephone number is (703) 305-0156. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez can be reached on (703) 308-1371. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7382 for regular communications and (703) 308-7382 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.

DDL
May 17, 2002

PL

